The total coal requirement of the power sector by 2011-12 has been estimated at 550 MT. Bulk of this is expected to be met through domestic sources. The steps taken by the Government to increase the production of coal include allocation of 130 coal blocks to different stake holders; Coal India Limited has identified 119 coal projects to be taken up during the Eleventh Plan; Singreni Colliery Company Limited (SCCL) has identified another 25 projects to be taken up during the Eleventh Plan; in addition, Coal India Limited, under 'Emergency Coal Production Plan' has identified 16 open cast projects/mines from where production will be enhanced.

Loan for renovation and modernization of power plants

2862. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC has entered into a pact with Germany's banking group KFW bankengruppe for a term-loan of $ 100 million, to be utilized on renovation and modernization of its power plants in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, *inter-alia*, indicating the units proposed to be modernized in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) NTPC Ltd. has entered into a Loan Agreement on 23rd March, 2007 for US Dollar 100 million with Kreditanstalt fur Wiederaufbau (KFW) for funding the expenditure on Renovation and Modernization of its power plants.

The loan has a maturity period of 10 years including the disbursement period of 3 years. The loan carries variable interest rate linked to US Dollar London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) plus a fixed spread.

Presently NTPC Ltd. has proposed Renovation and Modernization schemes of eight power stations including Talcher Thermal Power Station (460 MW) in Orissa. However, the Loan Agreement has the provision to add further stations subject to the acceptance of KFW.

Steps to meet power shortage

2863. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting between him and the Chief Ministers of States was held in New Delhi in May, 2007, which was addressed by the Prime Minister and a decision was taken therein to tide over the power shortage in the country;

(b) whether it was decided to utilize some of the merchant provisions in the Regulators Act and give policy directives to power regulators in which they should function; and

(c) if so, the details of the discussion and the outcome thereof?